

WHANGAREI

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Newsletter

Number 08

28 March 2014



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

- .. to our Lit Quiz support team.
- .. to Mitre 10 Mega for supporting the Senior school's trash garden project with nails, hinges, chicken wire, water crystals and plants.

People of the week

- .. our Lit Quiz team .. 7th and 11th place from 28 teams. A solid performance. Well done!
- .. Eve for recently qualifying to represent Northland U10 in tennis. Well done Eve!
- .. Michelle ... first girl over the line in the recent Kiwi Kids Triathlon. Well done also to Abbey, Rylee, Kobi, Brendan, Angus & Emily, Tremarn, Grace & Connan. (If we have missed your name, will be happy to put in next week if you let us know).
- .. those participating in this weekend's Marae Noho
- .. our Korean students who add a great deal of value to our school.

Term Events

Please pencil the following dates into your calendar (a few are tentative).
We will advise of further dates as these come to hand.

- 28-30 Mar Marae Noho
- 29 Mar Representation at ANZAC Field of Remembrance
- 7-9 Apr Trikids programme
- 16 Apr 2014 Youth Summit
- 17 April Final day for term 1 (5 May - Commencement of term 2)

Some reminders from last week

- .. children in afterschool labs and learning support programmes will have assigned work several times a week. Parents are asked to be vigilant in checking that tasks are completed. If unsure please direct any questions to the teacher concerned.
- .. registration forms for year 2 - 6 hockey available from the school office. Funsticks programme (year 1 children) starts 10 May.
- .. the entry period for International Schools Competitions is now closed.

Safety at roadsides

We have recently been advised of students walking too close to the road on their way to and from school. Teachers will be talking to children about this this coming week but parents are asked to reinforce the message at home. Please encourage children to walk right back from the roadsides, explore with them any specific blind spots on their route to and from school and monitor over coming weeks. If on the road around these times please take extra special care, knowing that children may well be at the roadsides, and advise the school of any matters of concern (drivers or pedestrians).

Overarching Virtue 2014

Remember ... if your child has had special victories in applying a positive attitude (especially to learning) please let us know so that we can celebrate these through the newsletter ... or even just so we can connect with them.

Korea Day

We have designated Wednesday 2 April as Korea Day in acknowledgement of the special relationship our school has with South Korea. As part of this we would love as many children as possible to wear a shirt / T-shirt etc on 2 April which is EITHER red, blue, white or black. The plan is to create a huge Korean flag on our courts made of children. So ... red, blue, white or black on the day if you can please. Thank you!

Maths - meeting for parents

As advised in earlier newsletters, we are especially focussing on mathematics (and digital technologies) this year. Among other things, this includes the learning of maths basic facts. At 3:15 PM on Thursday 3 April (in the library) we have arranged for a maths facilitator to speak to parents on the topic of basic facts. He will talk about why basic facts are important, why some children have difficulty learning their basic facts, and how we can assist children towards basic facts competency. Parents are warmly invited to attend this meeting. We hope to see some of you there!

Buses

Please ensure that you advise the school office before 2:45 PM if your child will not be on their customary bus that day (or longer term). We have been spending quite a bit of time searching for children who have already been picked up. If your child is regularly not on a bus on a given day(s), please advise the office of this and this will be noted on bus lists. Thank you.

School sponsors

Our school sponsors have gone out of their way to support our school ... some for a number of years. They do not generally do this for pecuniary gain but simply as a gesture of support. We nevertheless encourage you to support their businesses in return where you can.

Mobile Ear Clinic

Will be located outside the Bush Road Medical Centre 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Thursday 10 April. Pre-schoolers welcome. No appointments necessary.

Maths Whizz / Smart Words programme

A huge thank you to those people who are supporting with the homework component of the Maths Whizz and Smart Words programmes. In a sense these programmes are "extras" intended to reinforce concepts covered at school, as well as providing opportunities for more individualised learning. Please be aware that, at times, children will be learning smart words which seem too simple for them. This is because, while they may know these, they are not always rendering these words correctly in their general work, or because they are working on families of words of which these words are a part. We recommend a minimum two home sessions of maths whizz for maximum results. If you have any questions about these programmes please see your child's teacher.

Maths Whizz - Average mins/week over last Month

Room	Gold	Silver	Bronze
8	Jacob	Hanna	Kyrin
9	Jynaia (193 mins)*	Eve	Michael
10	Sean	Charlie	Brianna
Yr 7	Megan	Ethan	Isaac
Yr 8	Natasha	Tama	Magan

* Jynaia averaged the highest time with an impressive 193 minutes

Maths Whizz Subscription Fees

A number of families have not yet paid their child(ren's) maths whizz subscription(s). We collect these and pay them on your behalf to a third party. The \$33 fee is a discount we have negotiated from a starting fee (should you register your child yourself) of around \$350. Unpaid subscriptions could result in the deactivation of your child's account. So .. if you have not paid for this, please get payment along to school next week. If not sure, just give Helen a call. Many thanks.

Year 5 and 6 camp

If any parents took photos or videos they are willing to share please send these to Mr Schuster via email or flashdrive. A shared lunch is planned for camp students and parents sometime within the next couple of weeks.

Maths Labs

If your child has been in maths labs and you have received a recommendation for roll-over to next term, it is essential that you respond to this offer no later than 7 April please. We are reserving a limited number of slots for current students we believe would really benefit from a roll-over. If we have not heard from you by 7 April these slots will be opened to other students during the week following.

Scholastic Book Club

Issue 2 was sent home last week. All orders and payments into the office by Friday 4th April please.

Poppy Week

... coming up week beginning 14 April .. maybe put aside some coinage.

Hockey

There are a few hockey shirts that have not been returned from last year. Could you please return to the school office asap please.

Bullying

Last week we looked at the four different types of bullying and you were invited to spend a little time counting incidences of bullying on prime time TV ... haven't heard from anyone yet, but if keen to report your findings please email me at principal@matarau.school.nz.

The real point is that bullying happens in schools, at least in part, because it is present in wider society. Children see it on television, it is practised routinely by some of their role models (and peers) and it can even be present (often unconsciously) in the ways we are wired as adults. We all, therefore, have a huge responsibility to counter this culture of bullying (of getting my own way at all costs) with alternative ways of sharing, feeling, listening, forgiving and interacting. Next week will share what research seems to suggest are the best ways to combat bullying.

Finally

A special congratulations to Miss Blundell and Miss Griffin who receive their teaching degrees this term. This is a significant milestone. We wish you both a long and prosperous career. We are blessed to have you both on our team.

Regards
Kevin Trewhella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them

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Community Notices

Garage Sale – Whangarei choral Society, Sat 5th April, 7.30am, Christchurch Hall, Deveron St, Kensington

For Sale – Jack Russell puppy, male \$350. Ph Jenny 4355336 or 0273258617.

For Sale – Firewood dry shed stored totara \$90.00m² (minimum 2 metres). Ph Brad Martin a4335061 or 00274810450.

Piano – Upright piano looking for a good home. If interested please phone Ivy on 021 310 494

Kamo Soccer Club is now taking registrations for the 2014 season. You can either enrol directly through our Kamo Soccer Club website/homepage, or phone Jeremy Hay on 0275833323.

Tauraroa Area School Inter-School Motorcycle Competition - Sunday 30th Mar, McCarroll's Property, 69a Cassidy Road, Paparoa. Bring your own bike, helmet, and protective clothing, your snacks and drink. Teams of 4 riders around a set track. **Teams can be made up on the day with riders from another school.** Juniors- Up to Year 8 Seniors- Year 9 to 13. Mixed- 1 Adult, two year 9-13, One up the year 8. Each member of the team wears a specific arm band around our 9-10 min track and then hands it on to the next rider. Each Junior rider completes 2 circuits in total. Each Senior rider completes 3 circuits in total. Younger riders may be followed by a parent or mature rider as support. Team's first rider start at 30 sec intervals till all teams have started. Time:- Practise loop 8.30am Juniors 9am Seniors 12.30pm Mixed 2.30. Mixed-team event- 4 riders/team (Teams can be made up on the day with other riders if there are enough spaces.) For any further info contact Don McDonald-Spice at Tauraroa Area School for further information and registration..on 027 2835130 or don.mcdonald-spice@tauraroa.school.nz

Middle School Camp

We took full advantage of
the camp site pool



Climbing the rigging on the
R Tucker Thompson,
a real highlight for most students

The cheeky native Weka
was a campsite friend

